



PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 20, 2004

Date

T. Miller

Tamra Miller

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/652,580

Confirmation No. : 4283

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal

Filed : August 31, 2000

Attorney Docket No.: 501082.16 (98-0616.15)

Art Unit : 2825

Customer No. : 27,076

Examiner : Caridad Everhart

Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A
CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicant wishes to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 (copies of the cited references, as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, are enclosed). Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicant's duty to disclose all information he is aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicant believes that his invention is patentable.

I hereby certify that no item set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37

C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Steven H. Arterberry
Registration No. 46,314

SHA:tlm

Enclosures:

Postcard
Form PTO-1449
Cited References (3)

1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3400
Seattle, WA 98101
Telephone (206) 903-8800
Facsimile (206) 903-8820

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FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
501082.16 (98-0616.15)APPLICATION NO.
09/652,580**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)
Vishnu K. AgarwalFILING DATE
August 31, 2000GROUP ART UNIT
2825**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,622,888	04/22/97	Sekine et al.	438	398	
	AB	5,700,710	12/23/97	Zenke	437	60	
	AC	6,077,742	06/20/00	Chen et al.	438	255	
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AP	
	AQ	
	AR	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).